

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1225**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Cedillo**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Polanco)

February 23, 2001

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An act to add Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 898) to Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1225, as introduced, Cedillo. Transportation: downtown transportation infrastructure.

Existing law generally creates the Department of Transportation, which has full possession and control of all state highways and all property and rights in property acquired for state highway purposes. Existing law grants the department various other powers and duties. Existing law also creates the State Transportation Fund.

This bill would state various findings and declarations relating to, among other things, improving and upgrading transportation infrastructure in downtown areas. This bill would establish the Downtown Transportation Infrastructure Account in the State Transportation Fund, and would appropriate an unspecified sum from the General Fund to this account for the 2001-02 fiscal year to fund grants awarded by the department to cities, and cities and counties, as specified. This bill would require the department to make grants available to cities and cities and counties based on the results of a statewide competition under which the department would rate grant

proposals based on specified factors relating to the enhancement of downtown areas.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 898) is added to Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code, to read:

CHAPTER 10. DOWNTOWN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

898. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) As California enters the 21st Century, revitalization of its downtown areas is of vital importance to every community in the state.

(b) Downtown areas generally represent urban cores that are deficient in transportation infrastructure that is critical to revitalization.

(c) Improving and upgrading transportation infrastructure in downtown areas will allow workers to spend less time getting to and from their places of employment, which would allow them to spend more time with their families.

(d) Improving and upgrading transportation infrastructure in downtown areas will attract people to downtown areas for shopping and entertainment and will result in the generation of new state and local tax revenue.

(e) Downtown areas frequently have older and inadequate transportation infrastructure that is incapable of meeting current or future needs.

(f) The development of transportation infrastructure projects that are in, or in close proximity to, downtown areas allows the work force and visitors to downtown areas use surface streets and mass transit more efficiently, which eases traffic congestion and serves to improve air quality.

898.1. The Downtown Transportation Infrastructure Account is hereby created in the State Transportation Fund.

1 898.2. (a) The department shall make grants available to  
2 cities and cities and counties based on the results of a statewide  
3 competition that requires submission of proposals for funding.  
4 The department shall rate those proposals based on the extent to  
5 which each proposal has the potential to do all of the following:

6 (1) Allow workers to spend less time getting to and from their  
7 places of employment.

8 (2) Attract new commercial activity.

9 (3) Attract new housing in and around the downtown area.

10 (4) Create new employment opportunities.

11 (5) Attract people to downtown areas for shopping and  
12 entertainment.

13 (6) Generate new state and local tax revenue.

14 (b) Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, the  
15 following: bus stops; changeable message signs; curbside parking  
16 and loading lanes; directional signage to bus and rail lines;  
17 electronic real-time transit information signs; other electronic  
18 signs; fixed signage on access and egress corridors; freeway  
19 onramps; lane restriping; pop-up bollards; street widening;  
20 linkages to mass transit; shuttle bus service to and from parking  
21 lots to places of employment, downtown housing, shopping and  
22 entertainment; sidewalk construction; and studies evaluations and  
23 implementation of traffic management plans.

24 (c) The department shall award the grants as expeditiously as  
25 possible.

26 898.3. The department, in cooperation with cities, cities and  
27 counties, and relevant stakeholders, shall adopt the necessary  
28 guidelines for implementing this chapter.

29 SEC. 2. The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) is hereby  
30 appropriated from the General Fund to the Downtown  
31 Transportation Infrastructure Account in the State Transportation  
32 Fund for the 2001–02 fiscal year for allocation by the Department  
33 of Transportation as grants pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing  
34 with Section 898) of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code.

35 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
36 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety  
37 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go  
38 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

1 In order to begin awarding grants to upgrade and improve  
2 infrastructure in downtown areas that are critical to their  
3 revitalization, it is necessary for this act to take effect immediately.

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